



**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
**National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**  
Office of the Chief Information Officer  
High Performance Computing and Communications

September 30, 2019

Emma Best  
DEPT MR 74388 411A Highland Ave  
Somerville, MA 02144

**Re: FOIA Request DOC-NOAA-2019-001399**

Good afternoon:

This letter is in response to your Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request which was received by our office on 06/17/2019, in which you requested:

*Documents mentioning or relating to Anonymous (the hacker movement/collective, see below) or hacktivism (defined as hacking as a form of protest and/or activism) generated between 1 January 2009 and 1 January 2019, including but not limited to:*

- \* Internal reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to Anonymous or hacktivism*
- \* Reports from the appropriate IT (Information Technology) or computer offices regarding possible cyber-attacks by Anonymous or other hacktivists*
- \* Reports, bulletins, warnings and alerts relating to or mentioning Anonymous or hacktivism sent to or received from any federal law enforcement or intelligence agencies or any fusion center*
- \* Incident reports investigating possible hacking activity falling within the office's jurisdiction and allegedly carried out by members of Anonymous or other hacktivist groups*
- \* Materials generated as a result of any suspected or actual compromise, breach or "dox" (revealing of personal or private information) by Anonymous or other hacktivists*

We have located records responsive to your request. However, the information contained in these records is fully exempt, under Exemption 7(A), which prohibits from disclosure of records or information compiled for law enforcement purposes that could reasonably be expected to interfere with enforcement proceedings.

You have the right to file an administrative appeal if you are not satisfied with our response to your FOIA request. All appeals should include a statement of the reasons why you believe the FOIA response was not satisfactory. An appeal based on documents in this release must be received within 90 calendar days of the date of this response letter at the following address:

Assistant General Counsel for Employment, Litigation, and Information  
U.S. Department of Commerce Room 5896  
1401 Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20230

An appeal may also be sent by email to FOIAAppeals@doc.gov or by FOIAonline at <https://foiaonline.gov>.

For your appeal to be complete, it must include the following items:

- a copy of the original request,
- our response to your request,
- a statement explaining why the withheld records should be made available, and why the denial of the records was in error.
- "Freedom of Information Act Appeal" must appear on your appeal letter. It should also be written on your envelope, email subject line, or your fax cover sheet.

FOIA appeals posted to the email box, FOIAonline, or Office after normal business hours will be deemed received on the next business day. If the 90th calendar day for submitting an appeal falls on a Saturday, Sunday or legal public holiday, an appeal received by 5:00 p.m., Eastern Time, the next business day will be deemed timely. FOIA grants requesters the right to challenge an agency's final action in federal court. Before doing so, an adjudication of an administrative appeal is ordinarily required.

The Office of Government Information Services (OGIS), an office created within the National Archives and Records Administration, offers free mediation services to FOIA requesters. They may be contacted in any of the following ways:

Office of Government Information Services  
National Archives and Records Administration  
Room 2510  
8601 Adelphi Road  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
Email: [ogis@nara.gov](mailto:ogis@nara.gov)

Phone: 301-837-1996  
Fax: 301-837-0348  
Toll-free: 1-877-684-6448

If you have questions regarding this correspondence please contact Lola Stith at [foia@noaa.gov](mailto:foia@noaa.gov) or the NOAA FOIA Public Liaison Ed Kearns at (828) 273-1998. Please refer to your FOIA request tracking number DOC-NOAA-2019-001399 when contacting us.

Sincerely,

Mark Graff  
FOIA Officer/Bureau Chief Privacy Officer (BCPO)  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration